

GUIDELINES OF DRESS AND GROOMING

Parents should familiarize themselves with the dress code policy of the City of Leeds Board of Education and ensure that their children are appropriately dressed in the required attire specified in this Code of Student Conduct.

- (1) Hair must be clean and well groomed, and should not impair vision. Boys' hair must not touch the collar of a t-shirt (rounded, crew-neck), when measured at full length (i.e., loose or unpinned). Male students with facial hair must keep it neat and well groomed. A hairstyle, hair color, body piercing, clothing, or other article which is disruptive to the learning environment or which identifies a student as being a member of a gang or any subversive or unlawful organization shall not be allowed.
- (2) Male students in grades K-12 may wear one stud earring per ear. Band-Aids may not be worn to conceal unauthorized jewelry. Nose jewelry **shall not** be worn by boys or girls while they are in school. Jewelry (studs, pins, etc.) **shall** not be worn in any visible pierced areas of the body, including, but not limited to, the tongue.
- (3) Students are to wear clothing in the manner for which it is designed. No clothing shall be worn inside out, suspenders/braces shall be fastened and belts buckled. Pants must be worn at the waist. School administration may require that shirts and blouses be tucked in and coats be removed upon entering the building.
- (4) Sun dresses and backless dresses or tops shall be worn with a jacket or appropriate covering. (Jacket or covering shall not be sheer or mesh).
- (5) Bracelets, belts, and other clothing and accessories with spikes, studs, or chains are not allowed.
- (6) Jeans and other articles of clothing must be clean with no open holes above the knee. No shredded jeans will be allowed.
- (7) Grades K-5 sweats pants, jogging pants, and sweat suits are permitted. **Grades 6-8 sweat pants, jogging pants, athletic shorts, and sweat suits are not permitted.**
- (8) Articles of clothing must be appropriate for school wear. Skirts, dresses, and shorts may be no shorter than four inches above the top of the knee, except that students in grades K-3 may wear shorts appropriate for school. Slits in skirts must meet the four inches above the knee regulation.
- (9) Clothing shall not be worn in such a way as to be a disruption to the school environment or a safety concern.
- (10) Shoes appropriate to the school setting must be worn at all times. No beach/shower style flip-flops, house slippers, or shoes equipped with skates are permitted.
- (11) Hats, sunglasses, caps, and hoods shall not be worn at any time inside the building unless otherwise designated by the school administrator. Cases with extenuating circumstances are handled by the principal on an individual basis. (Examples of this would be children with hair loss from chemotherapy or recovering from surgical procedures having required the head to be shaved).
- (12) Gender specific underclothing must be worn and not visible.
- (13) Tops must cover the top of the pants and reveal no bare stomach when the student is standing or when the arms are raised. The material must be such that the body is not seen through it.
- (14) Muscles shirts, tank tops, backless tops, tops with spaghetti straps, halters, and other tops that are physically revealing, and pajamas are prohibited.

- (15) Trench coats, overcoats, or other large bulky coats shall not be worn during the school day and shall be placed in lockers at the beginning of the school day.
- (16) Slogans on a garment can be just as hurtful as verbal comments. Clothing with vulgar or profane language, racial or religious slurs, sexually suggestive placing, memorial shirts, or degrading language or graphics are not acceptable for school. Some examples of this would be Malcolm X insignia and Big Johnson shirts, Rebel flags, or unpatriotic display of flags. Clothing advertising tobacco, alcohol products, weapons, and drugs are prohibited.

You are asked to cooperate with the dress code guidelines since it can be inconvenient and upsetting for you to be sent home to change. It also upsets the educational climate of which we are all a part. This is another way you can make school a positive experience.

Any student who fails to dress appropriately will not be allowed to attend class until proper clothes can be secured. If necessary, parents will be called to bring proper clothes to school. Until proper clothing can be secured, the student will be isolated and will be responsible for all class work missed. Nonconformity to the dress code is a Class I offense.

The school administrator determines what is and what is not appropriate for the school setting.

The following specific types of speech, dress, or expression are prohibited:

- Representations of satanic activity that constitute lewd, indecent or vulgar speech including, but not limited to, representations of killing or sacrificing animals or humans, pentagrams, upside-down crosses or the number 666,
- The wearing of symbols which may disrupt the orderly operation of the school and/or activities including swastikas and gang-related clothing or symbols,
- Any article of clothing displaying any message which directly or indirectly relates or goods or services which are prohibited by law to minors such as alcohol, tobacco/or controlled substances.